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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) For the results obtained at the laboratory of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, the hon. Member is referred to an extract from the Monthly Digest of the operations of the Agricultural Department for October 1922, quoted by the then Minister for Development in his speech at the meeting of the Council held on the 20th March 1923. Experiments on a larger scale are now in progress at the College, and it is hoped that the results of these will be available shortly.

District Board.

Taluk Board, Salem.

147 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether a candidate, who was defeated at an election to the Salem Taluk Board, was nominated to it and whether he is a relation of the Vice-President of the District Board?

A.—The Government have no information. Members of taluk boards are appointed by the President of the District Board.

Empire Exhibition.

The British Empire Exhibition.

148 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money to be spent on account of the participation of the Madras Government in the British Empire Exhibition, in employing servants for working in connexion with the Exhibition and to be paid by the Madras Government;

(b) the officer or officers who will employ these servants; and

(c) whether it is understood that all these appointments should be made from amongst the British unemployed?

A.—(a) The expenditure in England on the employment of attendants and other servants in the Madras Court is estimated at Rs. 30,000.

(b) The Special Officer appointed by the Government in connexion with the Exhibition.

(c) There is no such understanding.

Famine.

Certain papers to be laid on the table.

149 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table—

(a) the reports of the Collectors of Bellary and Anantapur districts submitted to the Board of Revenue under section 35 (a) of the Madras Famine Code (1905);

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(b) the programme of public and village works maintained by the Collectors of Anantapur and Bellary districts under section 10 of the Madras Famine Code; and

(c) the special report furnished to the Local Government by the Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of Land Records and Settlement under section 46 (b) of the Madras Famine Code?

- A.—(a) The hon. Member will be furnished with copies of the reports.
 (b) The Collector will be asked to send a spare copy to the hon. Member if available.
 (c) The Government have not yet received the report from the Board of Revenue.

Report to the Government of India regarding relief measures required.

150 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Madras Government have sent their report to the Government of India, containing 'the earliest information practicable as to the likelihood of relief measures being required', under 47 (a) of the Madras Famine Code?

A.—No. The Board's report under section 46 (b) of the Famine Code has not yet been received.

Floods.

Floods in the Tinnevelly district.

151 Q.—Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of the damage caused by the recent floods in the Tinnevelly district

- (i) in the urban area of Tinnevelly cum Palamcottah,
 (ii) in the rural area; and

(b) what is the amount which the Government are prepared to grant for the relief of the distressed?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated the 7th January 1924, which was published in the Madras dailies about the 16th January 1924.

(b) The Government will apply to the Council if further funds are required for relief purposes.

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI:—"My question (a) is not answered by the Collector's letter and may I know whether the hon. Member will call for information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE:—"It will be found in his next report."

Floods in the Tinnevelly district.

152 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of the damage caused by loss of men, animals, buildings, merchandise, crops, etc., by the recent floods in the Tinnevelly district; and